SQUADRON SINISTER

004

GUGGENHEIM • PACHECO • TAIBO • MARTIN

SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

•

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS BATTLEWORLD, A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

•

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF!

•

BUT THE RUTHLESS MEMBERS OF SQUADRON SINISTER WHO RULE THE DOMAIN OF UTOPOLIS WEREN'T CONTENT TO STAY WITHIN THEIR OWN BORDERS. GOD DOOM TOOK NOTICE OF THEIR AGGRESSIVE EXPANSION AND SENT A THOR TO INVESTIGATE. THE THOR WAS MURDERED – HIS KILLER, UNKNOWN.

•

NIGHTHAWK FRAMED DOCTOR SPECTRUM FOR THE MURDER AND TRICKED HIM INTO HANDING OVER HIS POWER PRISM. HE ALSO FRAMED WHIZZER FOR THE THEFT OF AN ARGONITE WEAPON THAT CAN KILL HYPERION, WHICH REMAINED IN NIGHTHAWK'S HANDS ALL ALONG.

•

NOW, WITH WARRIOR WOMAN BLACKMAILED AND ON THE RUN, NOTHING STANDS BETWEEN NIGHTHAWK AND HIS FINAL TARGET: HYPERION, BARON OF UTOPOLIS.

SQUADRON SINISTER

• THE DARK NIGHT FALLS •

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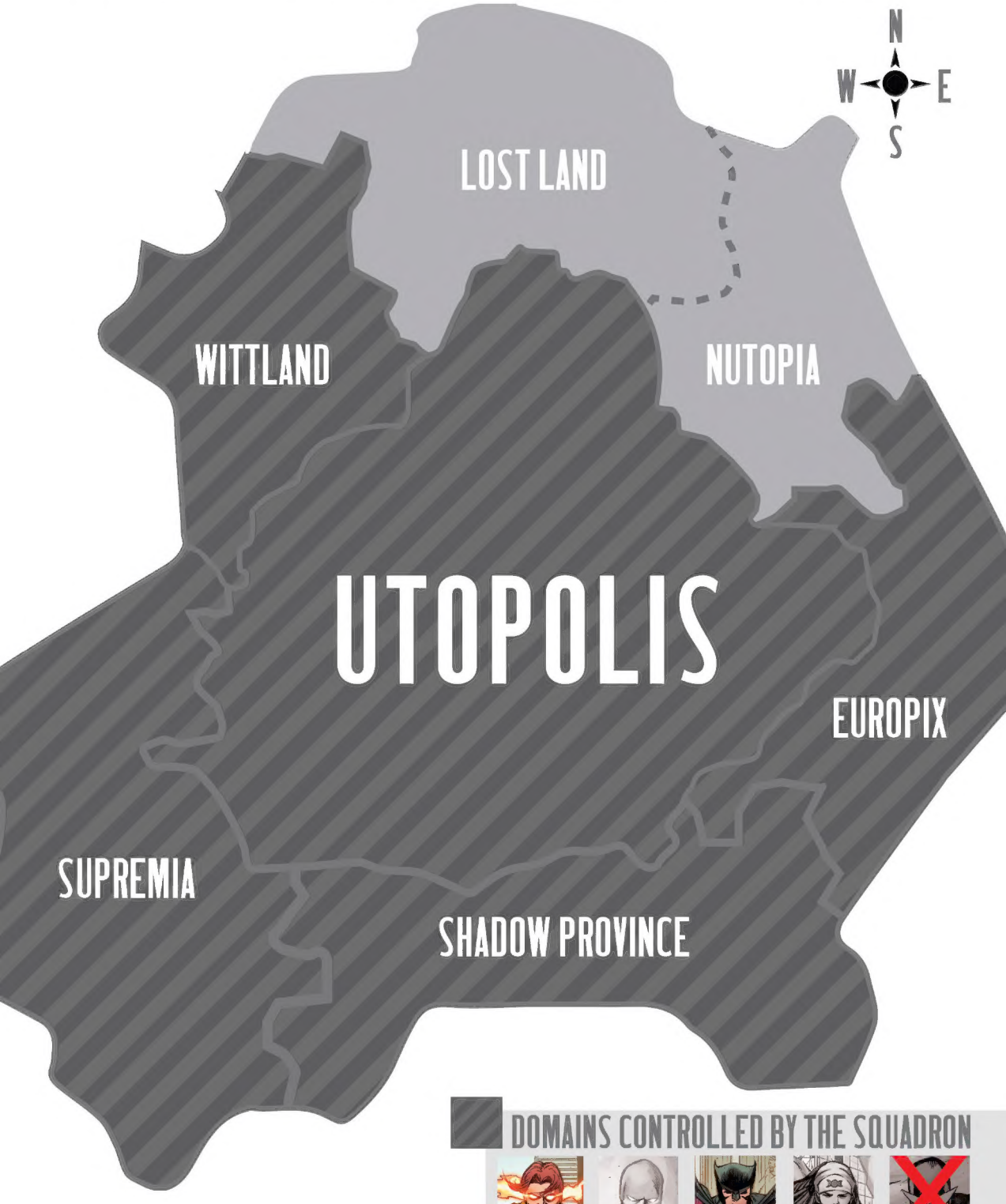
BATTLEWORLD



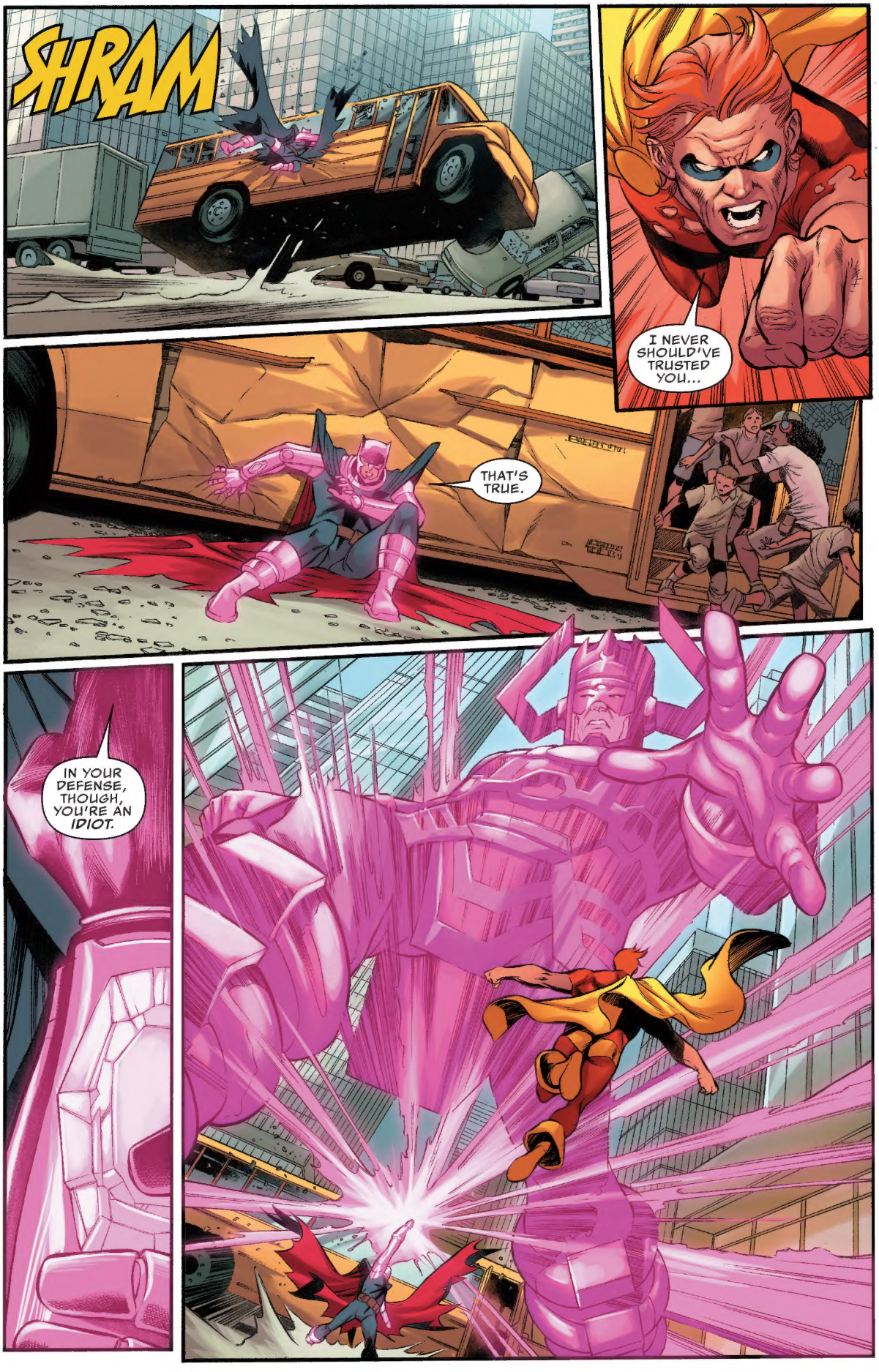
WHERE?!
WHERE IS SHE?!
WHIZZER BETRAYS ME. SPECTRUM DISAPPEARS...
NOW HER.
WHERE IS SHE?
WHERE IS WARRIOR WOMAN?!

WHERE IS SHE?!
FAR AWAY FROM YOU...
...YOU EGOMANIACAL $#@%.
BY RENE WONTERE

NIGHTHAWK-- RICHMOND--
WHAT--?
REALLY? YOU *REALLY* CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
ARE YOU ACTUALLY THAT STUPID? DO I HAVE TO DRAW YOU A *PICTURE*?
NO.
IT'S ALL VERY *CLEAR* NOW.
YOU WANT TO *DIE*.
HAPPY TO HELP.

I THINK NOT. THE TRUTH IS YOU WANT ME TO UNSEAT YOU...
YOU'RE BORED. YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT.
YOU'RE TIRED OF THE BURDEN OF LEADERSHIP.
RIGHT HAND TO GOD, KYLE, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'M TIRED OF...
YOU. TALKING.
I JUST BROKE THREE OF YOUR RIBS...
YOU DON'T GET IT.
THERE'S NO WINNING THIS.
THE ARGONITE'S DOING ITS WORK ON YOU RIGHT NOW.
THIS FIGHT WAS OVER BEFORE IT STARTED.
FM WOZ HERE

NUTOPIA PROVINCE.
LOST LAND
NUTOPIA
EUROPIX
W
E
S
JACOB BURNSLEY. STARBRAND.
WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE A SINGLE WORD YOU SAY?
WILLIAM BAKER. A.K.A. FLINT MARKO. THE SANDMAN.
YOU SHOULDN'T.
I MEAN, I'M A LIAR AND A THIEF. I'M A FRIGGIN' SUPER-CRIMINAL.
BUT THIS AIN'T ABOUT BELIEF. IT'S ABOUT OPPORTUNITY.
RIGHT THIS MINUTE, HYPERION AND NIGHTHAWK ARE BEATING THE SNOT OUT OF EACH OTHER. THERE'S NEVER GONNA BE A BETTER TIME.
A BETTER TIME FOR WHAT?
FOR WHAT YOU AND YOUR BUDDIES TRIED YESTERDAY.
FOR US TO FRIGGIN' LIBERATE UTOPOLIS.


SHRAM
I NEVER SHOULD'VE TRUSTED YOU...
THAT'S TRUE.
IN YOUR DEFENSE, THOUGH, YOU'RE AN IDIOT.

DON'T FIGHT IT. LET IT HAPPEN.
UNH!
EVENTUALLY, ALL GODS DIE.
AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN A GOD.
HELL, YOU'RE BARELY EVEN A MAN.
WH-WHY?
BECAUSE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS...
...I COULDN'T STOMACH YOUR ARROGANCE ANYMORE.
SO IT'S NOT AMBITION. IT'S JUST DISGUST.
YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THAT.

I DON'T EVEN NEED THE PRISM.
I'M GOING TO DO THIS WITH MY BARE HANDS.
NO...
NOT LIKE THIS...
SHH.
CRAK
MOVE ALONG.
NOTHING TO SEE HERE.

NIGHT-HAWK...
DROP THE PRISM. DO IT NOW.
GO BACK TO NUTOPIA.
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.

SORRY, COULD YA SAY THAT AGAIN?
SO HERE'S WHAT I THINK...
DESPITE THAT BLING IN YOUR HAND, I THINK TEN ROUNDS WITH HYPERION ROUGHED YOU UP SOME.
I THINK YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH LEFT IN THE TANK TO TAKE ON BOTH ME AND AN ARMY OF STARBRANDS.
AND I THINK...
...I WANT YOU TO DIE NOW.

YOU HAVE ALL MADE A VERY SERIOUS MISTAKE.
WELL, IT'S GOING AROUND.
YOU SINISTERS HAVE OFFICIALLY OUTSTAYED YOUR WELCOME.
GNF--
CHOOM
THIS IS FOR JENNY AND MARK AND KEN.
HYPERION SHOULD HAVE ANNEXED YOUR PATHETIC DOMAIN YEARS AGO.
AFTER I KILL YOU, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M GOING TO DO...

#&@%...YOU

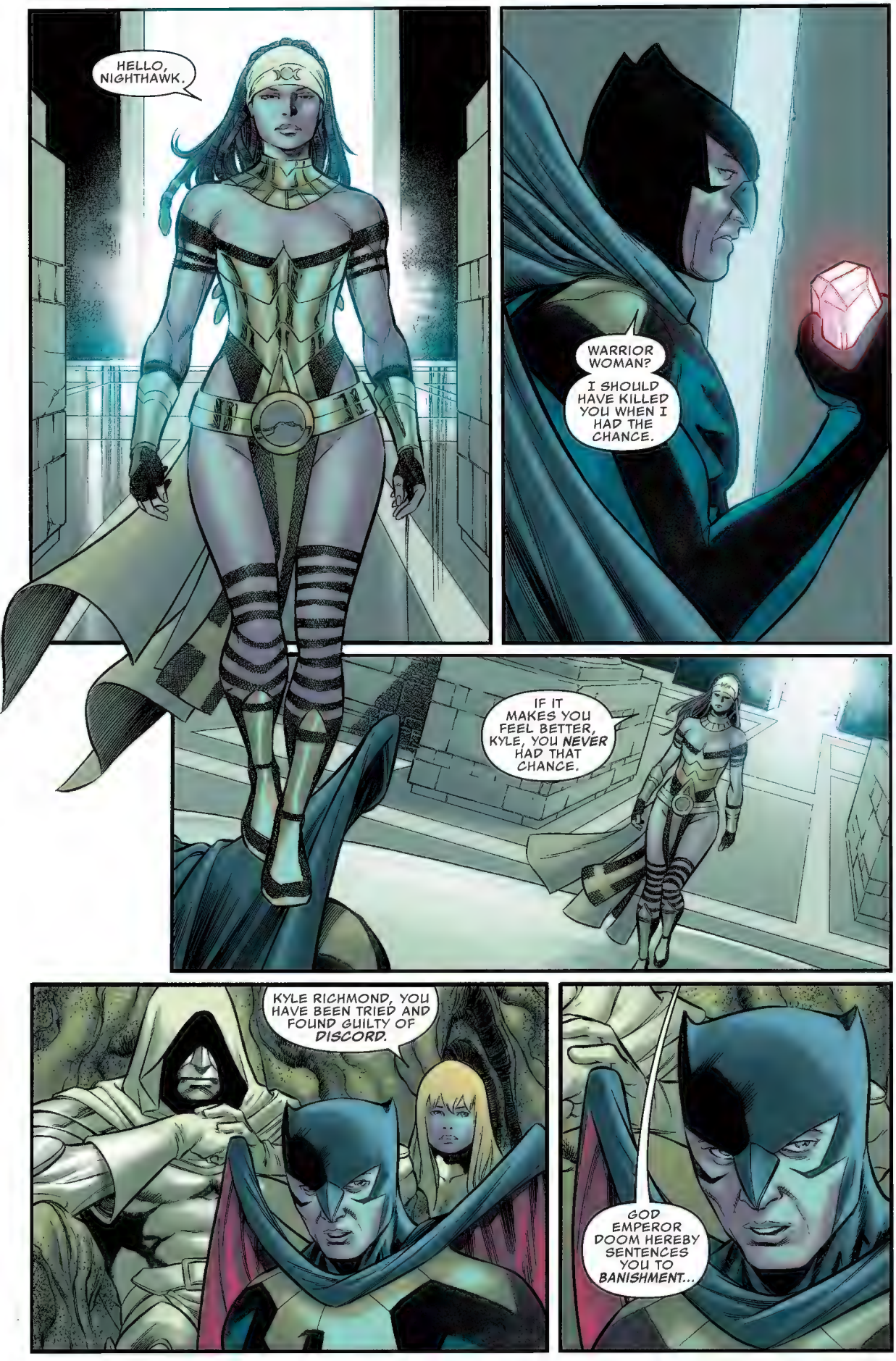
KYLE RICHMOND...
...WE WOULD HAVE WORDS WITH THEE.
KYLE RICHMOND... BY ORDER OF GOD EMPEROR DOOM...
THOU WILL STAND DOWN.

THIS IS A UTOPOLIS MATTER. IT DOESN'T CONCERN LORD DOOM.
ALL MATTERS ON BATTLEWORLD ARE OF CONCERN TO GOD.
YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUIRED AT DOOMSTADT.
FAILURE TO COMPLY WOULD BE... ILL-ADVISED.

CASTLE DOOM.
DOOMSTADT.
"THIS IS MOST DISTURBING..."
DOOMSTADT
THE WARZONE
...THIS MATTER OF MURDER.
AN ASSAULT ON A THOR IS AN ASSAULT ON THE REALM ENTIRE. IT IS AN AFFRONT TO THE CROWN.
NO DOUBT, LORD DOOM.
BUT I'M NOT THE CULPRIT.
DOCTOR SPECTRUM KILLED THE IRON THOR.
ACCORDING TO WHAT PROOF?
HIS OWN ACTIONS, MINISTER VALERIA. HE FLED.
LEAVING THIS BEHIND.
BECAUSE HE KNEW IT CONNECTED HIM TO THE CRIME.

IT'S TRUE, FATHER--THE POWER SIGNATURE OF THE BLAST THAT FELLED THE IRON THOR IS CONSISTENT WITH SPECTRUM'S POWER PRISM.
YES...
CONSISTENT, YOU SAY?
"...BUT NOT *IDENTICAL.*
"THE POWER LEVEL WAS TOO LOW, SUGGESTING A SINGLE-USE WEAPON."
HMM. THE CASE AGAINST THE ACCUSED IS...
...INCONCLUSIVE.
THANK YOU, LORD DOOM.
BUT YOUR *OTHER* ACTIONS ARE A DIFFERENT MATTER.

WHAT--?
THE FORAYS INTO THE SHADOW PROVINCE, INTO EUROPIX--
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN FREE TO MANAGE OUR OWN AFFAIRS--
DID YOU JUST INTERRUPT GOD?
...
MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES, MY LORD.
THESE AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS, CULMINATING IN THE MURDER OF A BARON, LORD HYPERION...
THEY CANNOT GO UNANSWERED.
LORD DOOM... HYPERION MOVED AGAINST ME. HE WAS PLOTTING TO KILL ME. I WAS MERELY DEFENDING MYSELF.
HOW IS THAT DISCORD?
MAYBE THE WITNESS CAN EXPLAIN...


HELLO, NIGHTHAWK.
WARRIOR WOMAN?
I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE.
IF IT MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER, KYLE, YOU NEVER HAD THAT CHANCE.
KYLE RICHMOND, YOU HAVE BEEN TRIED AND FOUND GUILTY OF DISCORD.
GOD EMPEROR DOOM HEREBY SENTENCES YOU TO BANISHMENT...

"...TO LIFE BEYOND THE SHIELD."
HAVE YOU ANY FINAL WORDS?
JUST THAT KILLING YOUR BROTHER THOR WAS ONLY A MEANS TO A PARTICULAR END.
NOT THAT I DIDN'T ENJOY IT, YOU SANCTIMONIOUS $#@%.
ALL RIGHT, THEN...
LET'S DO THIS.
"ALL RIGHT, FOLKS. IT'S OVER."

KING JAMES' ENGLAND
EPILOGUE.
UTOPOLIS
K'UN-LUN
DOOMGARD
DOOMSTADT
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SQUADRON SINISTER OR NIGHTHAWK OR ANY OF THOSE GUYS ANYMORE.
I GUESS TO MAKE IT OFFICIAL, I'M ANNEXING THIS PROVINCE IN THE NAME OF NUTOPIA--
GO HOME!
FOREIGNERS OUT!
WE DON'T WANT YOUR KIND HERE!
GET OUTTA OUR BUSINESS!
GET OUT!
GET OUT!
GET OUT!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU TO TELL US HOW WE SHOULD WANNA LIVE?
WITH THE SQUADRON, AT LEAST WE KNEW WHERE WE STOOD!
WE DON'T KNOW YOU. WE DON'T TRUST YOU!
"Better the devil you know than the angel you don't."
-Hama Tuma
MARVEL

WITNESS THE FORMATION OF A NEW SQUADRON IN

SQUADRON SUPREME #1

COMING IN DECEMBER

Tyrant Lizard Kings
EMPIRE